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Message Text

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PAGE 01 LENING 00659 081420Z

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ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 INR-07 SAJ-01 PRS-01 SS-15 /040 W
---------- 066514
R 081350Z MAY 75
FM AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1200
INFO USIA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L LENINGRAD 0659

EO 11652GDS
TAGS: OEXC UR
SUBJ: EXCHANGES: IV NOMINEES FROM LENINGRAD

REF: MOSCOW 5434

1. CONGEN HAS CONSULTED WITH EMBASSY MOSCOW AND WISHES TO PROPOSE FOLLOWING NOMINATIONS FOR IV PROGRAM CANDIDATES FROM LENINGRAD AREA.

2. BORIS IVANOVICH ARISTOV, FIRST SECRETARY, LENINGRAD CITY PARTY COMMITTEE. ARISTOV, AGE 49, IS CAREER OFFICIAL OF LENINGRAD PARTY AND GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS AND ALSO VOTING MEMBER OF CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE. HE HAS BEEN LENINGRAD CITY FIRST SECRETARY SINCE FEBRUARY 1971, PRIOR TO WHICH HE SERVED AS A DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF LENINGRAD CITY SOVIET EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND FIRST SECRETARY OF VYBORG RAYON PARTY COMMITTEE. ARISTOV IS PERSONABLE, ENJOYS HIGH REPUTATION HERE, AND HAS VISITED ABROAD ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS. HE IS CONSIDERED PRESENTLY AS PROTEGE OF OBLAST' FIRST SECRETARY (AND CANDIDATE MEMBER OF THE POLITBUOR) G.V. ROMANOV, AND HAS BEEN MENTIONED AS POSSIBLE SUCCESSOR IF ROMANOV MOVES UP TO ASSUME CENTRAL RESPONSIBILITIES.

2. ANDREY KONSTANTINOVICH VARSOBIN, EDITOR OF LENINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA, ORGAN OF THE OBLAST' AND CITY PARTY ORGANIZATIONS OF LENINGRAD. VARSOBIN, ABOUT
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50, HAS BEEN THE EDITOR OF LENPRAVDA SINCE 1972,

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PREVIOUSLY SERVING AS THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE AGITPROP SECTION OF THE OBLAST' COMMITTEE OF THE PARTY. HE IS MEMBER OF OBKOM AND CANDIDATE MEMBER OF OBKOM BUREAU OF PARTY. VARSOBIN IS TOUGH, INTELLIGENT TYPE WHO APPREARS PERIODICALLY AT CONGEN FUNCTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH APPROPRIATE US VISITORS. HE WOULD SURELY PROFIT FROM SOME EYE-OPENING IV EXPOSURE.

3. VIKTOR N. LOBKO, FIRST SECRETARY OF LENINGRAD OBLAST' KOMSOMOL OGANIZATION. LOBKO, IN HIS THIRTIES, HAS BEEN KOMSOMOL FIRST SECRETARY IN OBLAST' SINCE MAY 1974. HE WAS PREVIOUSLY SECOND SECRETARY OF OBLAST' KOMSOMOL AND PRIOR TO THAT WAS FIRST SECRETARY OF GATCHINA CITY COMMITTEE OF KOMSOMOL. HIS HAS BEEN A RISING STAR AND HE IS PRESUMABLY SLATED FOR EVENTUAL TRANSFER INTO PARTY WORK. CONGEN CONSIDERS HIM IDEAL "YOUT" CANDIDATE SINCE LARGE KOMSOMOL ORGANIZATION HERE USUALLY GOOD STEPPING STONE.
NEUBERT

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